CLAIMS

1.   A method for configuring a network device for intercommunication with a network, the network device being communicatively coupled with the network and having a first network configuration enabling the network device to communicate with the network, said method comprising the steps of:

recording information corresponding to the first network configuration of the network device;

determining whether the network device is able to communicate with the network; and

if the network device is not able to communicate with the network, reconfiguring the network device such that a current network configuration of the network device corresponds to the first network configuration.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein information corresponding to the network configuration of the network device is maintained by a network card of the network device.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining whether the network device is able to communicate with the network comprises the step of automatically determining whether the network device is able to communicate with the network.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of reconfiguring the network device comprises the step of automatically reconfiguring the network device such that a current network configuration of the network device corresponds to the first network configuration if it is determined that the network device is not able to communicate with the network.

5.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

determining whether the current network configuration of the network device corresponds to the first network configuration; and

if the current network configuration of the network device does not correspond to the first network configuration, recording the current network configuration as a second network configuration such that, if it is determined that the network device is not able to communicate with the network, the network device may be reconfigured with the second network configuration.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the network device is a printer.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the network has a server communicatively coupled thereto, and wherein the step of recording information corresponding to the first network
5   configuration of the network device further comprises the step of storing the information on the server.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the network has a workstation communicatively coupled thereto, and wherein the step of recording information corresponding to the first
10   network configuration of the network device further comprises the step of storing the information at the workstation.

9. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of reconfiguring the network device comprises the step of reconfiguring the network card of the network device such that a
15   current network configuration of the network device corresponds to the first network configuration.

10. A computer readable medium for configuring a network device for intercommunication with a network, the network device being communicatively coupled with
20   the network and having a first network configuration enabling the network device to communicate with the network, said computer readable medium comprising:

logic configured to record information corresponding to the first network configuration of the network device;

logic configured to determine whether the network device is able to communicate
25   with the network; and

logic configured to reconfigure the network device, if the network device is not able to communicate with the network, such that a current network configuration of the network device corresponds to the first network configuration.

30   11. The computer readable medium of claim 10, further comprising:

logic configured to determine whether the current network configuration of the network device corresponds to the first network configuration; and

logic configured to record the current network configuration as a second network configuration, if the current network configuration of the network device does not correspond

to the first network configuration, such that, if it is determined that the network device is not able to communicate with the network, the network device may be reconfigured with the second network configuration.

5   12.   A network comprising:

a communication interface;

a first network device configured to communicatively couple with said communication interface;

a second network device configured to communicatively couple with said
10   communication interface, said second network device having a first network configuration enabling said second network device to communicate with said first network device;

wherein said network is configured to record information corresponding to said first network configuration of said second network device, determine whether said second network device is able to communicate with said first network device, and, if said second
15   network device is not able to communicate with said first network device, reconfigure said second network device such that a current network configuration of said second network device corresponds to said first network configuration.

13.   The network of claim 12, wherein said second network device has a network card
20   associated therewith, said information corresponding to said first network configuration of said second network device being maintained by said network card.

14.   The network of claim 12, further comprising:

a server communicatively coupled with said communication interface, wherein said
25   network is configured to record information corresponding to said first network configuration of said second network device and store said information on said server.

15.   The network of claim 12, wherein said network is further configured to:

determine whether the current network configuration of the second network device
30   corresponds to the first network configuration; and

if the current network configuration of the second network device does not correspond to the first network configuration, record the current network configuration as a second network configuration such that, if it is determined that the second network device is

not able to communicate with said first network device, said second network device is reconfigured with the second network configuration.

16.   The network of claim 12, wherein said second network device is a printer.

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